

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical lens whose focal length is different on first and second planes perpendicular to each other is provided. The optical lens is configured such that a convex element which is formed integrally with a substrate having a flat face and has a convex curved face so as to have a function as an optical lens is shaped such that the curvature on a first cross section including an axis in a focus direction of the optical lens and the curvature on a second cross section perpendicular to the first cross section and intersecting with the first cross section along the axis in the focus direction are different from each other, whereby the focal lengths on the first and second cross sections perpendicular to each other are different from each other. A groove of a substantially elliptical shape or a substantially rectangular shape is formed along the boundary between the substrate and the convex element. The optical lens is used to produce a focus error signal or is incorporated into an optical pickup apparatus.